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Puerto Rico.

The amendments to the Puerto Rico bill yesterday laid before the Senate by Senator FORAKER will leave little of the delusion that the 15 per cent. of the Dingley duties hitherto proposed represented a serious effort on the part of the protected interests to protect themselves against the products of Puerto Rico. It was the products of the East that were feared, coming through the Philippines, our demand for the Open Door in the East having been surrounded by an understanding that the Philippines would be left open too. Unless, said Protection, the right of the United States to maintain a tariff against Puerto Rico can be established, there will be no tariff as against the Philippines, and the protective system will fail, or expansion will be defeated.

Neither of these fears was justified, in our opinion; but there is no longer room

The Foraker amendments provide for free trade with l'uerto Rico as soon as she herself shall demonstrate her financial ability to bear it. The amendments should be accepted and the bill passed.

Civil Service in the Island Territories.

Senator Ross's great speech of January 23 laid down the principle that Congress need at present announce no policy except the flag. It made clear likewise the unlimited power of Congress to legislate for our new territories, for each according to its peculiar requirements; a doctrine which has since become an accepted article of the Republican creed.

But on that occasion Senator Ross went a little further. He attempted to describe some of the conditions essential to successful administration of civil affairs in the islands. He dwelt particularly on the desirability of non-partisan appointments. On this subject the Vermont Senator said:

The second step is to remove all civil appoint ments in the Islands from the realm of politics. The nation will utterly fail in the disenarge of its duty it Ine islands are made political footballs subject to change in government with every political change in the Administration. The administration of the sovereignty must be intelligent, honest and uninterrupted. A faithful, intelligent man, with a full knowledge of the situation, must not be displaced to give place to one ignorant of the conditions, however capable otherwise. The duty rests upon the entire nation. It must be discharged for the interest of the whole nation. There are honest, capable men in every political party. These should be sought out and given place in the administration of this soy ereignty, as nearly as may be in proportion to the strength of the several political parties in the nation. Then, when there is a political change in the Adminsive changes in the administrative appointees of the

It is interesting to note that in order to give practical effect to these ideas of nonpartisan administration in the islands, Senator Ross prepared and introduced a bill which we print in full below. It was Senate bill No. 698:

"That appointments to civil offices in Alaska, in Hawaii, in Guam, in Puerto Rico, and in the Philipe Islands, shall be made irrespective of the political a filiations of the appointees and in such manner as to represent the entire country and to give to each political party, as nearly as practicable, its proportionate share thereof.

"SECTION 2. That such appointees shall not be removed from office except for incompetency, misconduct, inefficiency, or neglect of duty. Before removal charges shall be made in writing and a copy thereof furnished to the accused, who shall be ordered to make answer thereto in writing under oath, within a reasonable time, named in the order for answer. "SECTION 3. That if the accuse I shall fail to make

answer within the time named the charges shall be taken as confessed. If the answer shall deny th charges, the President may refer the ascertainment of the truth of the charges to any impartial person, who shall, in the vicinity of the place where the office is located, hear the testimony and report the facts found to the President."

Judge Ross's bill was referred to the Committee to Examine the Several Branches of the Civil Service, of which he is the chairman, the other Republican members being Senator FORAKER, Senator HOAR and Senator Deboe. The committee has now reported back the following substitute, now numbered as Senate bill 2,000;

"That all appointments to civil offices made by the President or any head of a Department in Alaska, Hawail or any place brought within the jurisdiction shall be made irrespective of the political opinions of the persons appointed, and, so far as consistent with the proper performance of the duties of the office such a manner as to represent the entire country. In case of removal from any such office, whenever practicable, charges shall be made in writing and a copy thereof furnished to the accused, who shall be afforded reasonable opportunity to make answer thereto; and the President or head of a De partment making the appointment may, whenever the public interest shall seem to require it, suspend the official pending hearing or investigation of such charges.

We have been careful to give the exact language of the Senator's speech and of his original bill, with that of the committee's amendment, because the three propositions, taken together, afford a dissolving view of a theory of political idealism.

The system of civil administration contemplated in Senator Ross's speech is practically one of assured tenure of office independent of changes at Washington. Everything would depend upon the wisdom of the selection shown by the President making the original appointments. There would be no opportunity for betterment, except in cases of downright misconduct. The territorial offices would be apportioned in the first instance not only according to the geographical distribution of population here at home in the United States, but also in proportion to the party vote at the last preceding Presidential election. For example, if Mr. MCKINLEY were now making all of these territorial appointments in a bunch, and they numbere | 1 : us say, 14,000, he would be required to see to it that about 7,100 Republicans got offices in the territories, about 6,500 Bryanite Democrats, about 135 Palmer Democrats, about 140 Prohibitionists and about 40 Labor Socialists. Once established in this proportion, supposing that they all behaved themselves, the Republicans would continue to predominate in the civil administration of the island territories, even though at the next election the Probicome responsible for good government in may be set down as impossible.

illustration. The main idea of Senator Ross is that the island administrations should be independent of party changes at Washington, and therefore in a great measure independent of the Federal

The text of Mr. Ross's first bill shows

abstract ideas in concrete statutory form. Its very first provision is the requirement of an impossibility. It requires the President to pick out his appointees "irrespective of their political affiliations," and yet at the same time to apportion them among the several political organisations, as well as among all the States of the Union. Could any plan be devised more embarrassing in the matter of good selection on the basis of personal fitness? Suppose the President found that the best men for the posts in question, irrespective of political affliation, happened all to be Democrats. He would be compelled to turn down a majority of the best men and fill the offices with a majority of inferior Republicans. The provisions for removal are likewise unscientific. Would the ultimate decision rest with the President or with the "impartial person" living in the vicinity of the office whereof the incumbent was charged in writing with misconduct or inefficiency? And what would prevent any strongly partisan President from making any partisan changes he saw fit to make, even if the impartial person reported in favor of the accused?

The committee's substitute eliminates the requirement as to apportionment among the parties, and merely prescribes that the President shall make the appointments "irrespective of the political opinions of the persons appointed, and, as far as consistent with the proper performance of the duties of the office, in such a manner as to represent the entire country." This sounds well, but it is practically meaningless. It gives the President precisely the same power which he has without it. There is not now and never has been any law requiring the President to consider political opinions in making his appointments. He is as free to nominate Social Labor men as Republicans or Democrats. Indeed, the committee's amendment, with the apportionment clause left out, runs directly counter to the spirit of the proposed act. A strongly partisan but conscientious Prohibitionist Executive might say to himself: "The fittest men for all these offices happen to be Prohibitionists. I should like to put in a few Republicans and Democrats to please Senator Ross, but how can I? The law clearly forbids the selection of any appointee because he is a Republican, or because he is a Democrat."

Senator Ross's doctrine of tenure and Senator Ross's safeguards against removal are also nullified by the insertion in the committee's substitute measure of the two words "whenever practicable." The bill leaves the President the sole judge of practicability in this respect; and he ought to be the sole judge.

Perfection in the administrative system in the outlying dependencies of the United States will be approximated only by degrees and by successive experiments. Whether or not the Spooner bill becomes a law, and the civil affairs of the Philippines are administered for a time directly under the supervision of the President, without specific legislation by Congress, the burden of responsibility will rest heavily upon the Executive. The power of unhampered action and unembarrassed selection of agents ought to go with that responsibility. Such restrictions as were contemplated by Senator Ross's speech and bill would be injudicious and premature if the amended of valuable time to discuss it, and it would be a waste of space in the statute book to enact it.

We quote once more from the Vermont Senator's speech of January 23, this time with unqualified approval: "It cannot be assumed that wisdom will die with the present Congress, or that it is any part of its duty to proclaim what future Congresses shall do. Sufficient unto the day is the duty thereof."

"Of God's Eternal Decree."

The talk about a trial for heresy of the Rev. Dr. HILLIS of the Plymouth Congregational Church of Brooklyn, and his consequent expulsion from the Presbyterian Church, in which he was ordained, is nonsense. The accusation against him is that. in a sermon last Sunday, he denounced this declaration of the Westminster Confession of Faith in its chapter "Of Gop's Eternal Decree:"

"By the decree of Gon, for the manifestation of Hi glory, some men and angels are predestinated unto everlasting life and others forcordained to everlasting death. These angels and men, thus predestinated and foreordained, are particularly and unchangeably designed; and their number is so certain and definite that it cannot be either increased or diminished.

"Those of mankind that are predestinated unto life, GOD, before the foundation of the world was laid, according to His eternal and immutable purpose and the secret counsel and good pleasure of His will hath chosen in CHRIST unto everlasting glory. out of His mere free grace and love, without any foresight of faith or good works, or perseverance in either of them, or any other thing in the creature, a conditions or causes moving Him thereunto; and all to the praise of His giorious grace.

"As God hath appointed the elect unto glory. so hath He, by the eternal and most free purpose of His will, forcordained all the means thereunto. Wherefore they who are elected being fallen in ADAM. are redeemed by CHRIST, are effectually called unto faith in CHRIST by His Spirit working in due season are justified, adopted, sanctified and kept by Hipower through faith unto salvation. Neither are any other redeemed by CHRIST, effectually called, justi fied, adopted, sanctified and saved, but the elect

The rest of mankind GOD was pleased, according to the unsearchable counsel of His own will, whereby He extendeth or withholdeth mercy as He pleaseth. for the glory of His sovereign power over His creatures, to pass by and to ordain them to dishonor and wrath for their sin, to the praise of His glorious justice."

We quote this precisely because it is the famous doctrine of election. Dr. HILLIS spoke of it as horrible, saying that "it would seem as if a man would prefer to be burned at the stake rather than hold or assert or charge such infinite cruelty upon the allmerciful and all-loving GoD." At one time, undoubtedly, such an expression would have been treated as damnable heresy by the Presbyterian Church, but that time was long ago. The doctrine of election is now rarely preached in its pulpits. Even the doctrine of eternal damnation for anybody is at least ignored and hell has become tabooed word in polite pulpits. When the movement for the revision of the Westminster Confession was started a few years ago its prime motive was feeling like that of Dr. HILLIS's concerning this very chapter "Of Goo's Eternal Decree," and the unsettlement of opinion and sentiment in the Church touching it is so great bitionist party should sweep the country, that any heresy trial of a minister for and a Prombitionist President should be- denunciatory treatment of the doctrine

from the time of AUGUSTINE; for unquesseeing the future as He sees the present and how difficult it is sometimes to embody the doctrine of predestination follows logi-

Any attempt to excise this chapter "Of terian ministers shrink painfully, as does Dr. HILLIS, from the terrible conclusion that Gop, "before the foundation of the world was laid" predestinated and "particularly and unchangeably nation. The strikers burned buildings, designed" certain of His creatures to dam- held up railroad trains and murdered nation "and their number is so certain and definite that it cannot be increased or The militia of Idaho were in the Philipdiminished." They are appalled by the unanswerable Augustinian logic and refuse to think on the subject, much less to preach | the Governor called upon the Presito men a doctrine so terrible.

Dr. HILLIS, moreover, in going to Plymouth Church, has passed over to Congregalated ereed like the Westminster Confession. It is said that he has not yet withdrawn formally from the Chicago Presbytery, and accordingly is still nominally amenable to Presbyterian discipline; but for such an offence as his it is not likely that he would have been arraigned, even if he had remained strictly a Presbyterian pastor. The heresy which confronts the Presbyterian Church at this time is far more fundamental, for it denies the validity of the very Scriptural authority on which alone the Westminster Confession rests; yet trials of such heretics, apparently numerous in its ministry and its theological seminaries, are avoided, in the New York Presbyundertaken. Eventually, however, the Presbyterian Church will be obliged to deal with these questions and settle them enforcing obedience to the Westminster Confession, with its doctrines of the infallible inspiration of Scripture and "Of God's Eternal Decree," or by positively and formally rejecting them and completely transforming the Presbyterian creed accordingly.

John Fiske on His Constitution.

Our robust and massive friend, Dr. JOHN FISHE of Cambridge, philosopher, his orian, essayist, musician and golfer, has stirred the bile of envy by his inexhaustible good health. He has also drawn to himself the curiosity of the gentlemen who pass their time in devising laws of diet, sleep and exercise by breaking every one of which the wise man often succeeds in finding a long life and a comfortable.

Dr. Fiske is 72 inches x 46. He weighs 240 pounds when he doesn't weigh more. He is as sound as a nut, as straight as a trivet, as solid as Gibbon's history and as healthy as health. A little Harvard professor with a Massachusetts Reform Club liver once burst out at the Tavern Club with this ingenuous remark : "I say, don't you hate JOHN FISKE! He is so confounded healthy."

Dr. FISKE has lately revealed to a medical friend the mystery of his unbounded health. He sleeps like a top, eats like a battalion of growing boys, has an unrivalled digestion and never aches and of the city. pains of any sort. How is his machine kept measure really made them effective. If it in such good order? Read John Fiske's

"Always ait in a draft when I find one, wear the thinnest clothes I can find, winter and summer, catch old once in three and four years, but not severely and prefer to work in a cold room, 55 to 60 degrees Work the larger part of each twenty four hours, and by day or night indifferently. Scarcely ever change word once written, eat when hungry, rarely taste coffee or wine or smoke a cigar, but drink two to three quarts of beer each day and smoke a pipe all the time when at work. Never experienced the feeling of disinclination for work and, therefore, never had to force work. If I feel dull when at work, a half hour at the plano restores normal mental condition. which is one more argument for the hygienic and re cuperative effects of music.

Now, some of these practices are not to be imitated recklessly. There are thousands of tender souls that would wilt if a keyholeful of air should visit them too roughly. We folk in the towns are a steam-heated race, and had rather be stewed like salamanders than let the oxygen get at us; and yet there are some enthusiasts who are impatient of heat and nearly throw themselves into an apoplexy when they read the thermometer. One man's temperature is another man's distemperature. Let us be comfortable and bid other persons' notions of a healthful temperature go hang. And thin clothes need not be donned in winter by health seekers. Apparently Dr. Fiske had his health to come in with, and he can't get ric of it however hard he tries.

As to the beer, some say "John stint it: others say "not so." So as to the piano. Dr. Fiske is an accomplished musician but there are millions of persons whom a proper consideration for the feelings of others should never tempt to the piano in dull or even in brilliant moments.

JOHN FISKE will be 58 years old next Friday. He has always liked to work and he has never had a headache or any other physical ill. Ter felix; happy as a clam! But how in the name of all the gods at once did JOHN FISKE, who is thought and thinks himself to be as sound as he is kind-how did John Fiske come to get into the antiimperialist squad? We can't be sure that he is as healthy as he thinks. There must be something the matter with his spleen.

American, and a Man.

There can be no excessive appreciation of the heroic and manly figure that looms up in the political life of this country just now in the person of Governor FRANK STEUNEN-

BERG of Idaho. For over a year the meeting places of certain political organizations and the columns of certain newspapers have resounded with denunciations of the President of the United States for what was declared to be his unconstitutional, arbitrary and cruel use of the Federal power in suppressing disorder in the Cour d'Alène mining district in Idaho. It was charged that the tyrannical capitalists who owned the mines owned the President as well. The President and Gen. MERRIAM, commanding the troops, were only the tools of the octopus. They overrode the civil power of the State, proclaimed martial law and treated the striking miners of I laho with harshness and contumely.

For some weeks a committee of Congress has been investigating the Idaho strikes and the conduct of all the Federal offithe islands. We use this merely as an - It is a doctrine which has always had a clais who dealt with them. Two or three

fascination for the logical theological mind days ago Governor STEUNENBERG took the stand. He was elected Governor of tionably it is absolutely logical. If men are to Idaho by a good majority as a Demobe everlastingly rewarded or everlastingly crat and a Populist, and he is, we underdamped it is obvious that Omniscience, stand, a member of a labor union. Therefore there were those who expected that past, must, according to logic, have known the Governor would endeavor to mollify or from the beginning those of them who excuse the part which he played in preservwould be glorifled and those who would be ing the peace in Idaho, and throw the punished. If everything happens by the responsibility and the blame, if any, for will of a personal God, the Supreme Ruler, the acts of the military there upon the shoulders of President McKinley. But a bluff, hearty German, so unconventional in manner that he appeared before the God's Eternal Decree" or to change it radi- committee without a necktie, he gazed cally, would involve the necessity of a with undisguised contempt upon LENTZ, complete reconstruction of the Westmin- the blatherskite who has been endeavoring ster Confession on a new and totally dif-, to cast odium upon the Chief Executive ferent basis. Meantime, however, Presby- and told what happened in Idaho in straightforward speech.

The riot of the strikers had assumed so grave a form, that it amounted to levying war against the State and the men. Law and order were banished. pines, and the armed forces of the State were powerless in the emergency. Then dent for aid. The troops, when they arrived under the command of Gen. MER-RIAM, were subject to the Governor's orders tionalism, which has no common formu- So far from the civil power being subordinated to the military, the reverse was the case. The martial law that was proclaimed was proclaimed at the Governor's in stance. It was the Governor who arrested and imprisoned miners and placed them in a stockade in lieu of a better place of de tention. It was the Governor who declared that the strikers should not be permitted to return to the places they had devastated unless they gave guarantees for their future good conduct. It was the Governor, who took charge of the business of suppressing the entire insurrection, and whatever was done was done by him and at his orders. No one who remembers what happened there can deny for an instant that al tery for instance, as too dangerous to be that was done was done rightly and properly. Despite his Populism and his labor-unionism the Governor protected the property and the other rights of the finally one way or the other, either by people of his State like a brave and honest man.

A weak or dishonest man, if Governor of Idaho, would have appeared before the Congressional Committee and endeavored to besmirch the President and make political capital out of the newspaper howl that has BERG. He told the truth and appealed to the good judgment of all self-respecting citizens for the approval of what he did Every American worthy of the name will say all honor to him.

Better Move the Van Wyck Tablet. The circus display of five spots and fluttering dragons has been removed from the City Hall park; but something remains which should be moved also.

The central point of the concrete plat form immediately in front of the entrance to the City Hall is occupied by a bronze tablet setting forth in large letters the names of the Mayor of the city, the Rapid Transit Commission, the chief engineer, and the contractors of the underground railway.

Thus the fact that the Hon. ROBERT VAN WYCK, nominally beginning the work of excavation, upheaved on March 24, 1900, a spadeful of earth at a spot not directly related to the actual work of construction, is inscribed like a gaping and offensive advertisement upon the principal threshold

This slab records a falsehood, for that was not the place where the excavation for the underground railway began.

It gives undue importance to an almost childish ceremony that would soon be forgotten but for the tablet. However great an enterprise it is that Mr. McDonald has in hand, however conspicuous may be the part of the underground road in the future development of the city, the initiation of this particular line of transit will never be regarded as the central fact in New York's history. Yet its monument is planted right at the municipal axis.

It is well enough that the performance of last Saturday should be commemorated. but the commemorative tablet should be re moved to some more modest and appropriate locality.

The Orator for December.

Arrangements are in progress for the selebration next December of the one-hundredth anniversary of the occupation of the City of Washington as the nation's capital. Senator Hale is the chairman of a joint committee consisting of seven Senators, ten Representatives, the Governors of the States and Territories, and a number of residents of the District. Senator PERKINS of California is the chairman of the executive committee of nine.

The present programme of the celebra tion includes commemorative exercises in the Capitol, the enlargement of the White House, or the erection of a new Executive Mansion, the opening of an avenue, to be known as Centennial avenue, from the Capitol grounds through the Mail to the Potomac River, a parade of military and naval forces and civic organizations, and an evening reception.

It will be an interesting occasion, this centennial of the establishment of the permanent seat of the United States Government; and, to the orator of the day, it will afford a pregnant and inspiring theme, worthy of DANIEL WEBSTER at his best.

For that honorable and pleasant duty, we nominate, subject to the approval of the committee and the country, the Hon. George Frisbie Hoar of Massachusetts.

There lives no American orator, in the Senate or out of it, better qualified by character, intellect, scholarship and instinctive rhetorical good taste.

The Hon. JAMES T. McCLEARY of the Secand Minnesota Congress district says that many of the farmers in it are going abroad this summer. Doubtless the Money Power will pay their fares for the sake of deceiving the people and continuing the specious semblance of prosperity against which the Demoeratic platforms will protest. It is part of the vast conspiracy against humanity that the farmers should have money to burn.

One hundred and eighty-nine million bushels of American corn were exported from the United States in 1897, and more than two hundred million bushels in 1898 and 1899. exclusive of corn meal in barrels, the foreign demand for which has been steadily increasing. It is announced from Chicago that on Saturday last the "personal appointee of Secretary Wilson of the Agricultural Department" started for Paris to take charge of the Corn Kitchen in the American building at the Paris Exposition. The official Corn Cook hails from Maryland, which is famous for its corn

The wholesome and nutritious value of

American corn is imperfectly understood in many countries, but corn is becoming more popular abroad as its excellent qualities beome known. The Corn Kitchen at the Paris Exposition is certain to have many curious and appreciative patrons, and the dexterity and skill of a colored woman cook from Maryland must turn many of them into devotees of corn cakes, corn fritters, corn biscuit and genuine

corn bread. The Hon. JOHN R. THAYER of the Worcester district is trying to induce the House Committee on Agriculture to recommend a appropriation of \$100,000 for the destruction of the gypsy moth in Massachusetts. The Bay State people have a cheerful self-possession The State Gypsy Moth Commission seems to have been encouraging the gypsy moth under the pretence of exterminating it. Probably a good fat Federal appropriation would bestill more encouraging. If Massachusetts is really as much bothered by the gypsy moth as she pretends to be she will go to work and drive it out herself instead of begging at Washington. What is the matter with the old State, anyway? We believe that if three white mice were to appear on Boston Common this afternoon they would cause a panio and scute convulsions.

The Washington romantic school has made an able tale to the effect that Col. BRYAN means to make his home in Texas if he is defeated next fall. Texas, big as it is, is pretty well stuffed with Democratic politicians. The hitched his wagon to the Lone Star. But Texas will always be dear to him as the State of his gifted ostrich Silver Bill and of the Hon. JAMES STEPHEN HOGG.

The Buffalo Courier believes that "it does not follow," because Col. BRYAN built the Nebraska platform, that "he will fasist upon its exact duplication at Kansas City." But if he does insist upon it, what can the Democratic brethren do about it? He is the Demo cratic party, and the Kansas City Convention will be his Fourth of July celebration; his own private "fizzle gig and fireworks," as Mr. LINCOLN used to say.

Col. BILL JONES & Democratic Representative in Congress from Virginia, has been trying to console the Maryland Bryanites. cannot now say with confidence." he said in speech at Baltimere, "who will be the Repubican standard bearer." It should not be inferred from this that Col. BILL JONES has not plenty of confidence. He needs and uses it all in his business as a Bryanite.

The present term of Senator BERRY of Berryville and Bentonville, now in the fifteenth year of his consecutive service, closes in 1901. and the Little Rock Legislature to be chosen this year will select his successor. There have been raised. Not so with FRANK STEUNEN- | been two avowed candidates for the place, DAN Jones, the present Governor, and JEFF DAVIS. the present Attorney-General. There is already one Jones in the Senate from Arkansas, and s colleague of the same name would cause perplexity. Arkansas should take BERRY again.

> The Secretary of the Middle-of-the-Road Populist National Committee kindly save that Ton Warson can have the nomination for President if he wants it." Tom Warson doesn't want it. He is making money in law and in history writing and is perfectly satisfied. whereas a Middle-of-the-Road candidate must be perfectly dissatisfied. That bright bronze head will not light up politics again at present.

IN SOUTH AFRICA.

The despatches of the past twenty-four hours point to general preparations for the next advance, active reconnoitring being meanwhile carried on all along the line. In Natal, according to Boer reports, the advance guard of a British cavalry reconnoissance was captured; and north of Bloemfontein another cavalry force reconnoitring to ward Brandfort had a smart skirmish with the Boar outposts. A general clearance of the field hospitals is also going on, always an indication of a renewal of active operations. The heaviest rains for several seasons, however, are reported to be falling all over the country, and it is thought this may to a certain extent interfere with the immediate resump tion of hostilities.

Reports from Maseru in Basutoland state that the main bedy of the Boer forces under Commandant Olivier that were trekking toward Kroonstad from the Orange River, had reached a point thirty miles north of Maseru, where they rested for forty-eight hours They have thus evaded the attempts made to intercept them by the cavairy under Gen. French, who is again back in Bloemfontein.

In the interval of inaction the most varied and frequently abourd rumors are coming in from the British side about the Boer leaders and their relations to each other, none which have been as yet borne out by events It was nothing unexpected that there should be a certain amount of defection at Bloem fontein and in the southern part of the Free State, where there was a con siderable number of naturalized British subjects who had renounced their allegiance to the British Crown, the naturalization laws of the Orange Free State not requiring foreigners to renounce their former allegiance. It was this element with small Dutch minority that formed the opposi tion to President Steyn, and now supports the British policy of absorption of the independent republics led by Mr. John Fraser, Lord Roberts's nominee to the post of Administrator

From Mafeking there is no news later than March 13, the same date as that received a week ago, nor has there been any from Col Plumer's column since its retreat from Lobatsi either from the British or Boer side. Th country to the westward of Kimberley remains still in the hands of the Boers and revolted Dutch, and there are reports of their being joined by German adventurers from the Nama qua and Damara German territories on the west, from where also they are believed to be obtaining ammunition and arms. A strong force is reported to have left Kimberley or Monday for Griquatown, about 120 miles to the westward. The object of this would be to intercept any insurgents coming north from the Prieska district, and with a view later on to disperse the Boers said to be at Papkuil, about forty miles to the northeast, to the right of the road from Griquatown to Kuruman that was captured by the Boers more than two months ago after a long blockade.

A despatch from Lorenzo Marques states that natives are being employed digging intrenchments for the defence of Johannesburg. but this seems to need confirmation. A large Boer force is also said by THE SUN correspondent with Lord Roberts to be assembling at Kroonstad, and generally the preparations for resistance appear to be going on with undiminished vigor. All the traders at Lorenzo Marques, except the British who are prohibited by their Government, are reported to be doing a tremendous trade with the Transvaal in supplies of all kinds, payment for which is made in gold, wool and hides. So great is the trade developed by the war that the German line has had to put on extra boats and the drench steamers are always loaded, there being, be sides the trade direct with Europe, a consider able business done with Madagascar in cattle and with Mauritius through Madagascar in

Fault on Both Sides. From the Indianapolis Press.

She—You don't kiss me like you did before we were married. He—No? And before we were married you never tried to kiss me when you had a mouth-fullof pins.

Too High Strung for a Bookworm. From the Detroit Free Press.

"Katherine is so high-tempered that she never reads a novel through."
"Pray tell me what her temper has to do with her novel reading?"
"Why, she gets mad at some character in the book and throws it in the fire."

PALUE OF AN ISTHMIAN CANAL. Capt. Jacob W. Miller Speaks on the Prob-

able Extent of Its Commerce. Boston, Mass., March 27.-Capt. Jacob W. Miller, N.M., N. Y., of the original United States Interoceanic Government Survey, is of the opinion that the Nicaragua Canal would be a profitable investment for this country. In an address

before the Commercial Club he said: "Assuming that the canal will cost \$115,000,-000, the fundamental question presents itself. Will the trade warrant such an outlay? A most critical and thorough investigation has been made on this point, and is shown in the exhaustive report on prospective tennage prepared by the Micaraguan Canal Construction Company. The statistics contained therein have been obtained from the most conservative governmental sources. The summary of the report on prospective tonnage shows conclusively that 10,000,000 tons will pass through the canal an-

tons will pass through the canal annually. The rate per ton via Suez is \$1.85. Assuming that the tariff by the American canal should be the same, we will then have a gross revenue of over \$18,000,000.

The capacity of the Nicaragua Canal is 14,000,000 cubic tons. Is there room for doubt that it will be taxed to its fullest extent? We are on the eve of a large development of our merchant marine. The natural growth and development of the Pacific States and Territories will soon furnish thousands of tons of traffic for the canal for the hundreds that exist under the present conditions. The wheat lumber, fish, wool, furs and other commodities of the Pacific Northwest will be provided to commerce in increasing quantities, and with greater profit to the producers when cheaper transportation

in increasing quantities, and with greater profit to the producers when cheaper transportation is at hand to convey them promptly to the world's markets.

"The trade between Australia and our Atlantic ports has quadrupled since 1865, though it is still trifling in comparison with the total foreign commerce of those colonies, but it has grown to what it is without encouragement, and in spite of obstacles and disadvantages; and slight favoring circumstances might open up for us large possibilities in our relations with young English-speaking peoples, whose foreign commerce already exceeds \$500,000,000,000 a year. Who shall say to what extent the commerce of Hawaii and the Philippines and the East may grow in the next five years?"

How to Get to Cape Nome.

"Great Casar! What was the matter with Senator Tom Carter of Montana (ast Saturday." said the man who knows it all, "when he got to talking about the gold digging at Cape Nome and about Alaska? He said that 100,000 miners would be engaged there the coming summer digging gold along a coast extent not to exceed thirty miles and I'd like to know how he will get them there.

"The ordinary ship in the service to Cape Nome will carry a couple of hundred passengers, sandwiching six in a room and make the trip in two weeks, or four weeks for the round trip, allowing three days at each end for loading and unloading. As some larger vessels will be put on this season, and as a whole fleet of small sailing vessels are chartered to go, let us call the average number of passengers that a vessel will carry, 200. To work all summer they must get their passengers there by the 1st of June, but that will be impossible as navigation will scarcely be open then; so we

as navigation will scarcely be open then; so we will start the summer on the 1st of August, which is a fair enough allowance to give a man for a summer's work. There are already 2,500 people wintering at Nome, so there will be but 97,500 to be carried in the eight weeks.

"Eight weeks will give each ship two trips and carrying 400 passengers in that time it will require 244 ships hustling as fast as they can. Now where will they get 244 ships? Especially as England is using all hers in the South African trade. And if they could, what a harvest for the transportation companies! The fare to Nome is \$100 first class and \$75 second, say \$87.50 average; for 97,500 passengers, \$8,513,700 in eight weeks. Gee whiz, that beats owning a Montana copper mine. Where the mischief did Tom get his figures?

"Again as to Alaska, he said that country had paid back to this Government a million dollars for every thousand expended in its purchase. It cost in round numbers seven millions of dollars, that is seven thousand thousand. Now a million for every thousand would be seven thousand million dollars, and if this Government has got that much out of Alaska where is it at? Senator Carter hasn't got any of it, I am sure, and as he ought to have his shure, on his behalf I ask again, where is it at?

The "Cape Cod Lingo" Question

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The several etters in THE SUN recently, saying that Cape Cod people say "We'm" for "We are," and "They'me' for "They are," were written by people who are ev dently newcomers to the Cape. To substantiate my statements, will say that the writer's ancestors were the first people to settle where Dennisport now is, and my grandfather lives on part of the same tract of land stances, I think I may speak authoritatively concernhe so-called "lingo."

I lived in Dennisport and went to school there when a boy. There are no better schools in Massachusetts. and I think any one will admit that the Massachu setts schools are quite up to the standard everywhere. During all my life I cannot remember hearing any expressions of which the correspondent of the Chris tan Herald reports. Possibly my associations were different, but certainly the larger and better class of Cape Cod people do not indulge in the forms of speech

During recent years many of the so called more dvanced religious beliefs have come to the Cape, the Latter Day Saints, Christian Scientists, Adventists, Holy of Holles, &c. Their following, how ever, is made up of the same class of people on the Cape as elsewhere, but please understand that this class is comparatively small and they should not be taken as representative of the real Cape Cod people PLYMOUTH, Mass., March 24. A NATIVE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: The "por white trash" of North Carolina, prototypes of the South Carolina "buckra" and the Georgia "cracker, nake use of the words "weuns," "vouuns. "theyuns," &c., doubtless corruptions (!) of "weyme, 'youme" and "theyme" of Devon in England, if no Cape Cod.

When Schofield's division of Sherman's victorious army swarmed through North [Carolina on its his toric march "from Atlanta to the sea" the soldiers considered it a great joke to repeat to us "pacificos" what the Confederate pickets used to call out to them: 'Hellow, Yank! ef youuns won't shoot weuns weuns won't shoot you uns -got any coffeeensugar to swop fer 'bacca?'

These poor whites of the South are looked down pon even by their well-to-do negro neighbors and are steeped in the densest ignorance. They have made but little if any progress in education and enlightenment since their forebears came over from England in the seventeenth or eighteenth century, indentured for a long term of years to work in the obacco and cotton fields of their colonial masters. BROOKLYN, March 26. NOAH PALMER.

Another Church Wauted. TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN-Sir: Apropos of

letter in Tuesday's SUN, signed "Clergyman, allow me to say that I know of a locality in Brookly where a church edifice would be a great blessing t the neighborhood. True, the congregation have a building called Methodist church, but not much more than a shed, and it really seems to me that with all the wealth of Brooklyn Methodism there ought to be some way found to build a suitable edifice in which to carry o

To an outsider it would seem that the souls of the people in the neighborhood were not of enough value o make it necessary to construct a proper place o worship. There is a society supposed to help poor churcher

modern church work without appealing to some indi

vidual man or woman.

but it takes more pains to help those in flourishing condition, and it seems to be an instance of investing goney where there will result the largest money profits with no consideration for the spiritual needs o he people. ONCE A METHODIST. NEW YORK, March 27.

Song of the Banana Peel. From the Los Angeles Times. Like a bar of the beaten gold. I gleam in the summer sun; I am little, I know, but I think I can throw The fellow who weigh's nonIlsend out no challenges bold. I blow me no vaunting horn, But foollsh is he want treadeth on me— He'll wish he had never been born.

Like the flower of the field, vain man
Lifts his head at the dawn of the day;
But when be shall feel my grip on his heel,
Like the stubble he fadeth away.
For I lift him high up in the air,
With his beels where his head ought to be;
With a down coming crash he maketh his mash.
And I know he's clean gone upon me. Men laugh me to so my on the stand,

A NEW SOUTHERN AUTHOR

A Look at Mary Johnston, Author of "To Have and To Hold."

From the Boston Herald. BIRMINGHAM, Ala., March 21 .- Mary Johnston, the author of "To Have and To Hold," enjoys this distinction-she declines to be finterviewed. Miss Johnston's retinence in this matter has probably resulted in this noticeable fact, that, although the American and English reviewers have exhausted columns in praise of her books, comparatively little has been written of the personality of the woman, of her charming home in Birmingham, of her ideal life in sunny Alabama. The world knows of her as a Virginia girl, and the photographs that have been widely copied reveal a wonderfully sweet-faced young woman, the graceful contour of her face recalling some famous

miniatures on ivory by the old masters. She is not very tall, and her figure is slender She is not very tall, and her figure is slender and fragile. She carries herself well, and has that high-bred air that gives her a distinctive charm in any assembly. Her eves are large and brown, with little flecks of gold. Her light brown hair is soft and way, and she wears it simply. She dresses quietly and fastionably. Her tastes are those of a charming woman, who, although unconventional, respects every propriety. She has travelled extensively in this country and abroad.

Miss Johnston's life is that of any high-bred, aristocratic girl of the South. As the oldest daughter of a family of six, she has had, since the death of her mother ten years ago, the cares and responsibilities of her father's household. Her father, Major John W. Johnston, was formerly president of the Georgia Pacific Rallroad, now a part of the Southern system.

Miss Johnston typewrites her own stories. She spent hast summer at a fashionable resort in the Alleghanies, and the click of her type-writer was frequently heard far into the summer's night, as she was at work on the concluding chapters of her story. "To Have and To Hold," then running serially in the Atlantis Monthly

Raced by a Panther.

From the San Francisco Call.

From the San Francisco Call.

Fulton B Allison, a young man of San Rafael, met an adventure with a panther on Bolinas Ridge early this morning, which, but for his presence of mind and the speed of his horses, would have had a fatal termination. Allison started out from Bolinas early, stepping at Little Carson Gulch to water his tear. He had got off to fix the bridles when his attention was attracted by a stealthy footfall on the side of the hill behind him. Looking round, he found himself face to face with an immense panther.

For a moment the beast seemed paralyzed at the encounter. Taking advantage of this, Allison strang into his wagon. At the same moment the horses scented the panther and, wild with terror, plunged forward just in time to avoid the animal's murderous impact, its claw, however, lacerating Allison's hand. From Little Carson Gulch to Liberty Station is four miles of steep down grade, and a race for life followed for the entire distance, the horses, urged by their terrified driver, straining every muscle and the panther following the fiving wagon in huge bounds. At Liberty Station the brute gave up the chase and slunk off into the woods.

woods.
Some hours of rest were needed before the exhausted team could start again, and Allison's hand to-night is extremely painful where the panther's claws struck him.

Nicknames of British Regiments. From the London Daily News.

The Grenadier Guards were nicknamed "The Coalheavers' because they were at one time allowed to work in plain elothes at odd jobs for private employers. The Seventh Foot were the "Elegant Extracts," because at one time all their officers 'had been chosen from other corps." The Forty-sixth owed their name of "The Lacedemonians" to their Colonel's stirring speech on the ancient Spartans. Like many other regiments. "The Gallant Flitteth" received several nicknames—"The Blind Haif Hundred," from their ophthalmic troubles in Egypt, and "The Dirty Half Hundred," because in their Peninsular fights they wiped themselves with their black facings. The One Hundredth Regiment are "The Old Hundred" and the "Centipedes." The Twenty-eighth were called "The Fore and Afta," because, standing back to back, they repelled a front and rear attack before Alexandria in 1801. The Cheshire Regiment has been christened "The Lightoing Conductors," because "in the Irish man@uvres of 1899 several men were struck by lightning during a night march."

From the London Daily News. Many years ago when President Krügerwas in England he was approached concerning some concession, railway or otherwise, by a business man here in London. The negotiations lasted for some time. One evening the Londoner, who was staying at the same hotel, having spent many hours with Mr. Krüger and his companion, went to bed much exhausted and feeling he had not got quite all he wanted. Next morning he arose at 9 and went along the corridor to Mr. Krüger's bedroom. To his astonishment it was empty and all the luggage astonishment it was empty and all the luggage astonishment it was empty and all the luggage was gone. "Oh, str." said the chambermaid.
"Mr. Krüger and his friend left at it this morning." Then, with a giggle of amused reminiscence, the girl added: "They was a queer counie, sir, and no mistake. When 'e passed your door, sir, Mr. Krüger, 'e started danch' right outside your door, sir, 'e and his friend. They didn't know as any one saw them, sir, but Bessie and I see them, unbeknown, from the top of the stairs. Then they went downstairs, sir, fairly splittin' their sides with laughin', though they didn't say a word."

Wounded Dog Story From the London Referee

Here is a true dog story from the front: "DEAR DAGONET: As a constant reader of Mustard and Cress' for the last eighteen years. think the following incident may interest you: After the battle of Spion Kop on the 24th ult. After the battle of Spion Kop on the 24th ult. the writer was assisting at one of the ambulance wagons attached to an irregular corps. While dressing the wounded we had notice a nice liver-colored pointer lying down some fitty pards away. He waited patiently until the last sufferer had been attended to and despatched to the field hospital, then walked straight up to us, and with a whine held up one of his forepaws, which, on examination, proved to have receive in bullet wound. Needless to say the poor beast received the attention he so plainly asked for, after which he lay down quietly under our wagon. I have many witnesses who will vouch for the truth of the above story. Yours faithfully.

"Victoria Club, Maritzburg, Feb. 2."

True Merit Recognized.

One of the pleasantest sights we have had in this town in a long time was the artistic manner in which John Griffin of Lawrence buried Bill Kruger, who died since our last issue. Mr. Griffin had his trade at his fingers' end and he handled our dead citizen with an agility that was startling in its originality. He was everywhere all the time, weeping with the afflicted widow, discussing weather prospects with the farmers and soliciting business from the other attendants at the faneral. He will doubtless be able to get all the business in these parts. Defore leaving for home he subscribed for this great family weekly, paying a year in advance. From the Vinland Weekly Vinc.

Where Tommy Atkins Gets His Name.

Every British reader should know the origin of the sobriquet "Tommy Atkins." Tommy Atkins was the name of a sentry who, when the Europeans in Lucknow were flying for the Residency, from the mutineers, refused to leave his post, and so perished. After that it became the fashion to speak of a conspicuously heroic soldier in the fights with the rebels as "a regular Tommy Atkins." From the London Daily News.

American Colony for Mexico. From the Chicago Record.

Four hundred Missouri farmers forming a colony re to settle in the valley of the Coneho River, State of Chibushua, Mexico, this spring. The special reasons for this southern migration are lacking, but they are not difficult to supply. Under a settled government, such as Mexico has enjoyed of late years, that country offers at least fair inducements to colonists of the United States who may happen to prefer a warmer climate than that of the Southern States of the Union. Canadians are constantly crossing the border into the United States and it is but natural this country should overflow to the south and to the north. Heretofore, however, it has not done so to any considerable extent, chiefly for the reason that there was no motive for such migration. Apparently, Missourians have found one -whether climate, soil. institutions or the mere love of change ingerent to the Anglo-Saxon race is immaterial.

Advance Agent of a Cyclone.

From the Courier-Journal. Henry Ostenholf caught Hannah Huber in his arms last Sunday night, and now his face looks as though he might have acted as advance agent for & cyclone through a brier patch.

Democratic Praise of Expansion. From the Charleston Evening Post.

But even with the prospect of the party's blind ollowing after Bryan, there is yet some satisfaction in contemplating Judge Snodgrass's expressions and in the assurance they give that windom is yet departed from all Democrata